

MEMORANDUM



Date	4 February 2020
To:	All Queensland Senior Community Clubs
From:	Barry Gibson (State Manager – Senior Football Operations)
CC:	AFLQ Executive Team, AFLQ Regional Managers, AFLQ Senior Football Operations Team.
Subject:	2020 AFL Queensland Senior Community Competitions Rules & Procedures

The Senior Football Operations team have conducted a review of the AFL Queensland Senior Community Competitions Rules and Procedures 2019 and have implemented several changes through the Rules and Procedures in line with the modernization of our game for the 2020 season and beyond.

The Rules and Procedures refer to *Reference Documents*, such documents along with the Rules and Procedures are located on the AFLQ website via the following page; <http://www.aflq.com.au/policies-rules-and-regulations/>

Whilst there have been quite a few changes to the rules in respect to wording and location within the document, all material amendments are outlined below.

Whilst we have endeavoured to provide an overview of all major changes, it is the responsibility of clubs to familiarise themselves with the updated Rules and Procedures.

Key Changes:

- The QAFLW and Development League rules and procedures have also undergone a significant review and amendment. All QAFLW clubs are advised to familiarize themselves with Rule 14.
- For all QFAW and Affiliate League Women's competitions, the minimum number of players required to commence a match will now be increased to 14. Once a side can no longer field 12 or more players, the game will be immediately forfeited.
- Interchange Stewards will no longer be required for all Senior competitions. The 6-6-6 (and 5-6-5 for Women's football) rule introduced in 2019 enables the umpires to ensure the maximum number of players allowed on the field is managed after every commencement of play. Refer to rule 4.9 for further information.
- The minimum number of games required to qualify for all youth and senior men's and women's competitions has been aligned to four (4) across the state. This will enable an easier administration of eligibility. Youth football has reduced their requirement from 5 games to 4, and senior football has moved from 3 games up to 4.

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- As the QAFLW and Development League commences in three weeks' time, there will be no change to the final's eligibility for the 2020 season. QAFLW will align to 4 games eligibility in the 2021 season.
- To alleviate the burden on traveling teams, there will be no requirement for away teams to perform any match day roles. Live scoring (for Senior matches) and the results information entry into SportsTG will now be the responsibility of the Home team for all AFLQ and Affiliate League competitions. Refer to rule 4.13 for further information.
- For some AFLQ Competitions, the quarter lengths have been amended. Clubs are encouraged to familiarize themselves with rule 4.9 (h)(i).
- The composition of the QFA Men's competitions was extensively reviewed during the 2019 season. In 2020, the QFA Men's Competitions will now include:
 - Division 1
 - Division 2 South (mix of former Division 2 & 3 clubs, introduction of Northern Rivers Senior clubs)
 - Division 2 North (mix of former Division 2 & 3 clubs)
 - Division 3 (Formerly Division 4 – Friday Night)
 - Division 4 (Formerly Division 5 – Friday Night)

An extensive list of all rule changes follows:

Rule	Description & Detail
1.3 Amendment	Penalties If AFLQ Rules and Procedures are not adhered to, a system of penalties will be invoked by the relevant Affiliate League or AFLQ. Infringements will incur penalty units that equate to monetary fines or sanctions as deemed by the relevant Affiliate League or AFLQ.
1.6 New Definition	Sanction Means a ruling or penalty handed down by an Affiliate League or AFLQ based upon their discretion.
2.8 (b) Amendment	Competition Structure Four (4) premiership points shall be awarded for a win or win by forfeit, and two (2) points shall be awarded for a draw. No points shall be awarded for a loss. Where Clubs have an equal number of byes in the fixture draw, no premiership points or player qualification shall apply when the Club has a bye.
3.3 (d) New Rule	Age Eligibility It is solely the responsibility of competing Clubs to ensure all players are of-age prior to taking the field.
3.5 (c) Amended Rule	Player Movement Between Competitions Wording revised to align with new definitions.
3.8 (iii) New Rule	Age Eligibility Applications can be submitted to the Colts Competition Manager for consideration to play over age players in Colts if the applications

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	meet the requirements as set out under the AFL National Age Dispensation Policy.
3.12 (c) (iii) Amendment	Permit Conditions Chart created to identify and define a 'more senior grade' competition.
3.13 (g) New Rule	Providing False or Misleading Information in relation to a Clearance or Permit If a club who knowingly falsifies a team sheet or plays a player under a false or different name such club may be liable to lose premiership points gained and such further penalties as AFLQ or its Affiliate League shall determine.
3.13 (f) New Rule	Providing False or Misleading Information in relation to a Clearance or Permit If a club who knowingly plays a player when the appropriate permit and eligibility approvals have not been met such club may be liable to lose premiership points gained and such further penalties as AFLQ or its Affiliate League shall determine.
3.14 Rule Move	Gambling This rule has been moved to Rule 6.15
4.2 (d) New Rule	Branded Footballs Clubs must seek the approval of their respective Competition Manager prior to using a football that is not supplied by AFLQ; is a different colour to the competition standard; or has sponsor branding applied.
4.7 (c) Amendment	Late Starts and Match Forfeit Team Sheets for teams receiving forfeits must be submitted prior to the commencement of the scheduled start time of the match or as per rule 4.10 (a) (ii).
4.7 (e) New Rule	Late Starts and Match Forfeit Should a club forfeit a game during the final's series, that club will forfeit their position in the remainder of the finals series.
4.8 (d) Amendment	Cancellation or Suspension of Matches Clubs will be able to enter a team sheet for matches that cannot be re-scheduled under the direction of the relevant Competition Manager.
4.9 (a) (v) New Rule	Timekeeper's Duties Away teams are strongly encouraged to provide a timekeeper to avoid all doubt regarding the operations of a game.
4.9 (e) (v) New Rule	Noting times and occurrences Timekeepers are now required to note down a number of additional

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	occurrences during a match.
4.9 (h) (i) Amendment	Match Duration (Time of Quarters) Table revised with new quarter lengths and a section added to outline the length of the quarter time and half-time breaks. Some competition's quarter lengths have been amended.
4.10 (a) (ii) Amendment	Official Team Sheet – Players and Officials Listing Player numbers on official team sheets updated: QAFL – Up to 26 players QAFLW – up to 24 Players
4.10 (a) (v) New Rule	Official Team Sheet – Players and Officials Listing Teams operating under the AFLQ Player Points Value Policy must submit a team sheet that contains a minimum of 22 players that have a sum total on or below the stipulated competition points cap. Teams are prohibited from fielding less than 22 players to play under the points cap.
4.10 (a) (vi) New Rule	Official Team Sheet – Players and Officials Listing The Competition Manager and/or match Umpires have the ability to remove a player's name from a team sheet if they believe the player did not take the field at all during the match.
4.11 (b) Amendment	Interchange Players A club or team may amend the official team sheet up to two (2) minutes prior to the scheduled start of the match, provided the listed player to be replaced is injured or medically unfit to play. The Umpires and opposition team must be informed immediately of the change.
4.12 Amendment	Interchange Stewards The requirements of clubs to have an Interchange Steward has been removed and the Interchange Sheet has been removed from match day paperwork. Some aspects of the Interchange Stewards roles will now be carried out by the timekeeper.
4.13 (a) (i) (ii) Amendment	Match Day Paperwork & SportsTG Results To minimize the load on a travelling away team, all match result data is to be submitted into SportsTG by the Home Club. Away teams must provide all required information to the home club Team Manager prior to leaving the venue. Away teams must still ensure all data entered online is true and accurate following the match. Any discrepancies should be followed up with the relevant Competition Manager.
4.13 (c) New Rule	Match Day Paperwork & SportsTG Results Match Day Paperwork for matches officiated by Club Umpires must be submitted online via the Cognito platform within 90min of the completion of the match by the Home Club Field Umpire.
4.15 (d) (viii) New Rule	Runners Duties Runners are now permitted to carry water bottles in some AFLQ Competitions.

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	<p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - QAFL Seniors and Reserves - QAFLW and QAFLW Development
5.1 (c) & (d) New Rules	<p>Application</p> <p>Additions have been made with respect to the Application of the Rules and Procedures; the Laws of Australian Football; and the State and Territory Tribunal Guidelines.</p>
5.2 (d) New Rule	<p>Match Review Panel</p> <p>The MRP have the power to revoke or change a set penalty decision of an umpire if there is sufficient evidence to do so.</p>
5.3 (c) Amendment	<p>Prohibition on Match Day role (Suspended Player)</p> <p>A Suspended player cannot be in the vicinity of the interchange area or coach's box, but may enter the field of play at breaks.</p>
5.12 (a) (iv) New Rule	<p>Tribunal Hearing Procedure</p> <p>Should a reported person, aggrieved person or witness fail to attend a tribunal hearing when formally requested to do so, the Tribunal has the power to impose a suspension on such person until such time as the hearing has occurred.</p>
6.1 (b) (i) & (ii)	<p>Football Record / Publicity – QAFL & QAFLW</p> <p>Updated to represent accurate team list numbers for each competition.</p>
6.4 (h) New Rule	<p>Club Uniforms</p> <p>AFLQ or an Affiliate League may at times establish an agreement with a sponsor/partner that require the logo or corporate branding to be added to on-field apparel of players and officials. Clubs will be notified of these requirements by their respective Competition Managers.</p>
6.11 – 6.14 New Rules	<p>General</p> <p>New Rules added surrounding Anti-Doping, Respect & Responsibility, Disrepute & Conduct Unbecoming and Social Media.</p>
8.1 (a)-(e) Amendment	<p>Finals Eligibility</p> <p>With the exception of the QAFLW and Development League, the minimum number of games required to qualify for all Senior men's and women's football finals has been increased to 4 games.</p> <p><u>NOTE: QAFLW and Development League will remain at 3 games for the 2020 season and move to 4 games for 2021 and beyond.</u></p>
8.1 (i) (ii) New Rule	<p>Colts or U18s Finals Eligibility</p> <p>New rule added to count games played in the same round for senior club.</p>
8.2 Amendment	<p>Drawn Matches - Finals</p> <p>New Rules adopted following a revision to the Laws of the Game.</p>

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9.1 (c) Amendment	All AFLQ competitions / Queensland Underage Teams Revision stating that Senior Representative games played when a fixtured club game is scheduled will count towards finals eligibility for a Senior club game.
11 (d) Removed	SportsTG Rule removed in line with amendments to 4.13 (a) (i) (ii).
12.1 (b) Amendment	Colts Special Arrangements This section has been rolled back into 12.1 (b), as it should sit under the Colts Competition Specific information. It formerly sat as 12.2 (a).
12.2 (b) Amendment	Rule Modifications Updated information regarding umpire allocations for QAFLW Development and QFAW games.
12.2 (e)(ii)(A-G) & 12.2(g) Amendment	Rule Modifications Updated information regarding minimum player numbers required to play QFAW competitions.
12.5 (a)-(g) Amendment	QFA Promotion and Relegation Due to the competition restructure for QFA Division 1-3, this section has been revised to represent the new competition composition requirements. Divisions 1 and 2 will no longer have a promotion/relegation structure, however, it will remain for the new Division 3 and 4 competitions.
12.6 Rule Removed	The 2019 Division 4 will now be known as Division 3 for 2020 The 2019 Division 5 will now be known as Division 4 for 2020
13 Amendment	Salary Cap and Player Points System Section amended to include QFA Division's 1-2.
14 Significant Rule Amendments	QAFLW Club List & Player Movement Rules Significant amendments have been made to rules 14.1 – 14.5 regarding the new QAFLW List Management Rules. Please familiarize yourselves with these updates.

If you require further clarification on any of the above changes, please liaise directly with your respective competition manager.

~ENDS~

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